

Living Worthy of My Calling, Pt. 39
“Praying Always”
Ephesians 6:18

In order to stand amidst spiritual conflict, we must learn to live in dependence upon our Lord at all times; we must learn the great privilege of prayer.

1. The Centrality of Prayer

*“Praying always
with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit,
being watchful to this end
with all perseverance and supplication
for all the saints.”*

(1) Essential to standing firm! [context!]

(2) Essential to putting on the Whole Armor of God!

- Real application of the Word of God to all of life is impossible apart from a life of prayer
- We cannot engage in our spiritual warfare with any success apart from prayer

(3) Essential to taking up the Sword of the Spirit!

- This “sword” can be wielded only in the strength of the Spirit
- If my prayer life is weak or compromised I will find that:
 - I am rarely “taking up the sword”
 - I am often ensnared!

2. The Activity of Prayer

(1) **We are to pray at all times.**

“praying always”

(2) **We are to pray all kinds of prayers**

“with all prayer and supplication”

- “prayer” – general term: attitude and aspects of devotion - adoration, confession, thanksgiving
- “all prayer” = “all kinds” or “every kind”:
 - public and private, secret and family, oral and unexpressed, formal and spontaneous
- “supplication” = direct and earnest petition

(3) **We are to pray “in the Spirit”**

- in dependence upon the Spirit of God cf. Rom. 8:26-27

- according to the Word of God

- genuinely, not hypocritically or with empty words

(4) We are to be watchful by means of prayer

“being watchful to this end”

(5) We are to persevere in prayer

“with all perseverance and supplication”

(6) We are to pray for all the saints

“for all the saints”

- a “covenantal focus”
- a primary responsibility

We are reminded that we are *one body*, one army
We are to advance *together* in the things of Christ

Further Application: